

transfer mode via the audio link. These data are applied to the element CALL via the data link and are transferred further to the element KEY as the eighth data word: they are then written in the associated memory location. In this case, the waiting interval amounts to 100 ms before the eighth data word is returned to the element CALL. The element CALL subsequently transmits the ninth data word to the element KEY. As a result, the data written for the eighth data word are read from the memory for checking and are returned to the element CALL after a delay of 100 ms. The returned data are then compared with the previously transmitted data. If they are not identical, the procedure is restarted from the sixth data word, or a message in the voice memory is addressed as an indication. The data field of last words has the structure shown in FIG. 7c, the destination number (DS) covering the two least significant digits or tetrades (D), the transport mode (MOD) covering the next-higher significant tetrad, and the number of passengers (NUMB) covering the most significant tetrad. If said identity is present, the tenth data word is transmitted to the element KEY. As a result, the destination number from the memory 126 is displayed in the part of the display device reserved for this purpose. In this case, the time delay introduced by the element 121 amounts to 0.5 seconds. Subsequently, the reservation request is dealt with and the algorithm incorporated in the system searches the sequence number (SQ) or bus-number to be assigned. This number is similarly processed: i.e. it is transmitted in the eleventh data word, checked in the twelfth data word, and displayed by the thirteenth data word. If the check does not produce the correct result, the procedure is restarted from the fifth data word, followed directly by the eleventh and the twelfth data word. The structure of the eleventh data word is shown in FIG. 7b: the bus number (SQ) is embodied in the two least-significant tetrades of the data field. After the thirteenth data word, the procedure has been completed, which can be signalled by the addressing of a relevant message in the voice memory. The element KEY may be removed without the display disappearing (for the time being).

The described procedure can be realized in a different manner within the scope of the invention. This is also applicable to the described embodiments of the element KEY, which may also be used in a different environment.

What is claimed is:

1. A portable element for receiving, storing, displaying and outputting digital data, said portable element having data input, a memory having an at least partly modifiable content, a display device for the persistent display of digital data in the form of characters on the basis of data received on the data input, and a data output, for use in a reservation system having at least one locally present reservation device and at least one service facility which is not locally present, characterized in that:

means to couple said data input and data output for coupling to an access device of the reservation device and for then receiving a proximity signal from the reservation device;

means to transmit, co-controlled by said proximity signal, identification data stored in said memory and a reservation request concerning the service facility to the reservation device in order to grant the reservation request;

means to unblock said system by a verification signal generated by said identification data after examination thereof in the reservation device;

said display device having means to display, under the control of the content of the memory modified by a signal of availability data from the reservation device, reservation data concerning a reservation of a service facility, the availability data in the reservation device being adapted at the same time.

2. A portable element as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that therein there is provided an inductive loop device for the contactless receiving of an energy pattern which is locally built up by the reservation device and which serves to power circuit components of the portable element, including the display device which persistently displays for at least a predetermined period of time when the portable element is uncoupled from the reservation device, and also to enable bidirectional data traffic in order to realize the coupling between said data input and data output on the one side and said access device on the other side.

3. A portable element as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the portable element also incorporates a keyboard having a code output which is connected to the data output of the portable element in order to selectively apply a reservation request thereto.

4. A portable element as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the portable element also incorporates a keyboard having a code output which is connected to an input of a memory which is also incorporated in the portable element.

5. A portable element as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that between said data input and data output there is loop-wise connected a shift register which can be activated by a clock element of the portable element and which serves to apply data received on said data input to said data output in order to form a presence signal.

6. A portable element as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that a decoder which is connected to predetermined bit positions of the shift register serves as a control device for further components of the portable element.

7. A portable element as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that between further predetermined positions of said shift register and a data connection of said memory there is connected an unblocking device, a control input of the unblocking device being connected to a control output of said decoder for the selective conducting of a data transport.

8. A portable element as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that said unblocking device can be activated in two directions by relevant signals on a control output of said decoder.

9. A portable element as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that said inductive loop device comprises at least one first loop element for receiving power energy and also a second loop element for receiving data energy, and a third loop element for transmitting data energy.

10. A portable element as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the display device is suitable for the display of an identification of a service facility.

11. A portable element as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the display device is suitable for the display of data of a permissible reservation request.

12. A reservation device which is suitable for communicating with a portable digital communication element